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(54) **A test device for performing specific binding assays.**

(57) An analytical test device useful for example in pregnancy testing, comprises a hollow casing (500) constructed of moisture-impervious solid material, such as plastics materials, containing a dry porous carrier (510) which communicates indirectly with the exterior of the casing via a bibulous sample receiving member (506) which protrudes from the casing such that a liquid test sample can be applied to the receiving member and permeate therefrom to the porous carrier, the carrier containing in a first zone a labelled specific binding reagent is freely mobile within the porous carrier when in the moist state, and in a second zone spatially distinct from the first zone unlabelled specific binding reagent for the same analyte which unlabelled reagent is permanently immobilised on the carrier material and is therefore not mobile in the moist state, the two zones being arranged such that liquid sample applied to the porous carrier can permeate via the first zone into the second zone, and the device incorporating means,

such as an aperture (508) in the casing, enabling the extent (if any) to which the labelled reagent becomes bound in the second zone to be observed. Preferably the device includes a removable cap for the protruding bibulous member.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X,P, D	WO-A-8 702 774 (BOOTS-CELLTECH DIAGNOSTICS LTD) * the whole document *	1,2,4,5, 7,8,11	G01N33/52 G01N33/558 G01N33/76 B01L3/00 G01N33/58
Y,P	---	3,9,10, 12-19	
Y	EP-A-0 170 746 (COVALENT TECHNOLOGY CORP.) * page 17, line 13 - page 17, line 19; claims *	3,9,10, 12-19	
Y	EP-A-0 191 640 (SYNTEC (USA) INC.) ---	3,9,10, 12-19	
Y	EP-A-0 149 168 (DAIICHI PURE CHEMICALS CO., LTD.) * Abstract; page 5, line 3; page 7, line 15- page 16, line 28; figures. *	1,2,4,5, 7,9,13	
Y	EP-A-0 183 442 (SYNTEX (USA) INC.) * Abstract; page 4, line 25- page 5, line 23; figures.*	1,2,4,5, 7,9,13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	GB-A-2 016 687 (ABBOTT LABORATORIES) * page 2, line 24 - page 2, line 65 *	18	G01N
A	WO-A-8 604 683 (BOEHRINGER BIOCHEMIA ROBIN S. P. A.) ---		
A,D	FR-A-2 356 944 (THYROID DIAGNOSTICS INC.) -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	05 AUGUST 1993	HITCHEN C.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			